

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

To be assigned

Filing Date:

Unknown

Applicant:

Steven G. Goebel et al.

Group Art Unit:

To be assigned

Examiner:

To be assigned

Title:

INTEGRATED FUEL PROCESSOR FOR RAPID START AND

OPERATIONAL CONTROL

Attorney Docket:

8540G-000080

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. <u>LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION</u>

The patents, publications and other information submitted for consideration by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form 1449 attached hereto.

II. <u>COPIES</u>

| Α. | Х | Submitted | d herewith | is a | legible | сору | of (i) | each | U.S. | patent | application |
|-------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-------------|--------|------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| pub | olica [.] | tion and U | .S. and fore | eign p | atent; (ii) | each p | oublicat | ion or | that po | ortion wl | nich caused |
| it to | o be | listed; (iii |) for each | cited | pending | U.S. a | pplicati | on, the | e appli | cation s | specification |
| inc | ludir | ng the clai | ms, and a | ny dra | awing of | the ap | oplication | on whi | ch ca | used it | to be listed |
| inc | ludir | ng the clain | ns directed | to th | at portion | n; and | (iv) all | other i | nform | ation or | that portion |
| wh | ich c | aused it to | be listed. | | | | | | | | |

B. ____ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form 1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by



or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

| Ш. | CONCISE EXPLANATION OF T | HE RELEVANCE (chec | k <u>at least</u> one box) | |
|-----|---|--|---|--------------------------|
| | A. X Except as may be indicated information are in the English land | | | other |
| | B A concise explanation information listed that is not in 1.98(a)(3)): | of the relevance of ea the English language | ach patent, publication or on its as follows (see 37 C.F. | other R. § |
| | C The following additional | information is provided | for the Examiner's considera | tion. |
| IV. | CROSS REFERENCE TO RELA | ATED APPLICATION(S) | ! | |
| | A The Examiner is advise subject matter that may be relapplication(s) to the Examine confidentiality provisions of 35 L | ated to the present app er's attention, Applica | lication. By bringing this(th | iese) |
| | Serial No. | Filing Date | Art Unit | |
| V. | THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UND | <u>DER</u> | | |
| | A. <u>x</u> 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b): (ch | neck <u>only</u> one box) | | |
| | | pplication under § 1.53 | national application other th (d) (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). | |
| | 2 within three monin §1.491 in an internation is required. | ths of the date of entry tional application (37 C | of the national stage as set C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fe | forth ee or |
| | 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or of Action on the merits has 1.97(c) and see the ce | certification is required. been issued, please co ertification under 37 C. ade, charge our deposi | tion on the merits (37 C.F. In the event that a first C nsider this IDS under 37 C.F F.R. § 1.97(e) below; or, it account a fee in the amou | Office .R. § if no |
| | | | n after the filing of a reques | |

| В | _ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): (check <u>only</u> one box) |
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| | • before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution. |
| | 1. No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). |
| | 2 See the certification below. No fee is required. |
| C | _ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d): |
| | • after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee. |
| | 1 See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). |
| CERT | IFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box) |
| The ur | ndersigned hereby certifies that: |
| from a | each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three sprior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)); or |
| foreigr unders IDS w | no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the signed after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this as known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three s prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)). |
| foreign item of patent filling of no item from a the un IDS w | Some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each finformation contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that not not seem of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of dersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this as known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three sprior to the filing of this IDS. |
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VII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

- A. ____ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the above-identified fee.
- B. ____ Please charge Deposit Account No. 07-0960 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 07-0960.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 07-0960.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 19, 2001

By: Chinda M. Deschere Reg. No. 34,811

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. Box 828 Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303 (248) 641-1600

FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

| ATTORNEY DOCKET No. | SERIAL NO. | -0- | _ | |
|-------------------------|------------|---|------------|------------|
| 8540G-000080 | | PT | ٠ | |
| APPLICANT | | N. | ; <u> </u> | 1 0 |
| Steven G. Goebel et al. | | - 100 - 100 | | 19 |
| FILING DATE | GROUP | 92 | 5 | ਜ |
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| U.S. F | ATENT DO | CUMENTS | | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ref. Desig. | Examiner's Initials | Document Number | Date | Name | Class/ Subclass | (If appropriate) Filing Date |
| 1. | | 4,293,315 | 10-6-81 | Sederquist | | |
| 2. | | 4,642,272 | 2-10-87 | Sederquist | | |
| 3. | | 4,650,727 | 3-17-87 | Vanderborgh et al. | | |
| 4. | | 4,659,634 | 4-21-87 | Struthers | | |
| 5. | | 4,670,359 | 6-2-87 | Beshty et al. | | |
| 6. | | 4,816,353 | 3-28-89 | Wertheim et al. | | |
| 7. | | 5,271,916 | 12-21-93 | Vanderborgh et al. | | |
| 8. | | 5,484,577 | 1-16-96 | Buswell et al. | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------|---------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Ref. Desig. | Examiner's Initials | Document Number | Date | Country | Class/ Subclass | Translat Yes | ion No |
| 1. | | WO 98/08771 | 3-5-98 | WIPO | | | |

| OTHE | OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | |
|----------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Ref. Desig. | Examiner's Initials | | | | | |
| 1. | | Hall et al., "A Porous Media Burner for Reforming Methanol for Fuel Cell Powered Electric Vehicles, " SAE Paper #950095 | | | | |
| 2. | | Natural Gas Power Plant System (a descriptive drawing) | | | | |

| Examiner: | Date Considered: |
|-------------|-------------------|
| LAGITITIOI. | Date Correlation. |
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